

REMARKS

Rejection of the claims under 35 USC § 103

Claims 11 and 13-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S. C. 103 as being unpatentable over Zimmer (Methods, 1999) in view of Vaish et al (NAR 1998) and Zhang et al. (Human Gene Therapy 1999). Applicants' have submitted, with this amendment, a declaration under 37 CFR 1.131 indicating an invention date prior to the priority date of Zimmer (Methods, 1999) or Zhang et al. (Human Gene Therapy 1999).

The Examiner's objections and rejections are now believed to be overcome by this response to the Office Action. In view of Applicants' amendment and arguments, it is submitted that claims 11, 14-16 and 18 should be allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the USPTO on this date: 8/25/2008.

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